# DEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of	)		
HAWAII WATER SERVICE COMPANY, INC.	)	Docket No.	03-0275
	)		
For Approval of a Rate Increase;	)		
Revised Rate Schedules; and to Enter Into	)		
Financing Arrangements	)		
	_)		

## STIPULATED PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 21071

Filed <u>June 23</u>, 2004 At 10:00 o'clock A.M.

Chief Clerk of the Commission

RECEIVED

100 JUN 24 A 8: 4

11V. OF CONSUMER ADVOCA
DEPT. OF COMMER AFFAIRS

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

#### OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of	)		
HAWAII WATER SERVICE COMPANY, INC.	)	Docket No.	03-0275
To A	)		
For Approval of a Rate Increase;	)		
Revised Rate Schedules; and to Enter Into	)		
Financing Arrangements	)		
	_)		

#### STIPULATED PROCEDURAL ORDER

Applicant Hawaii Water Service Company, Inc. ("HWSC") and the Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (the "Consumer Advocate") hereby stipulate that the attached Stipulated Procedural Order is mutually acceptable to each respective party.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, June 14, 2004

J. DOUGLAS ING

PAMELA J. LARSON

Attorneys for Applicant

HAWAII WATER SERVICE

COMPANY, INC.

JONS. ITOMURA

Attorney for the

DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY

Department of Commerce and

Consumer Affairs

# DEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of	)		
HAWAII WATER SERVICE COMPANY, INC.	)	Docket No.	03-0275
For Approval of a Rate Increase;	)		
Revised Rate Schedules; and to Enter Into	)		
Financing Arrangements	)		
	_)		

#### STIPULATED PROCEDURAL ORDER

On February 26, 2004, Hawaii Water Service Company, Inc. ("HWSC") filed an application for approval of a general rate increase and for approval of financing arrangements. In the Application, HWSC also requested that the Commission bifurcate its request for approval of financing and the rate increase application. HWSC served copies of the application on the Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (the "Consumer Advocate" or "CA").

By Order No. 20914, filed April 16, 2004, the Commission approved the request to bifurcate the proceedings, and ordered the parties to submit separate prehearing orders with respect to the request for approval of financing and the general rate increase application.

HWSC and the Consumer Advocate have reached agreement on the issues and procedural matters with respect to the request for approval of financing arrangements, and

submit this Stipulated Procedural Order to the Commission, which is acceptable to the parties.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that the following Statement of Issues and Schedule of Proceedings and procedures shall be utilized in this docket.

I.

#### STATEMENT OF ISSUES

The issues to be considered in this case are as follows:

- A. Whether the financing proposed by Applicant, including the encumbering of Applicant's assets as security for the proposed financing, should be approved?
- 1. Whether the proposed financing is for the purposes permitted under Section 269-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes?
- 2. Whether the proposed financing will have a material adverse effect on Applicant's public utility operations?

II.

#### **SCHEDULE OF PROCEEDINGS**

CA Information Requests ("IRs") to HWSC <sup>1</sup>	April 26, 2004
HWSC IR Responses to CA	May 18, 2004
CA Statement of Position ("SOP")	June 29, 2004
HWSC SOP, if necessary*	July 13, 2004

Whenever possible, parties will provide copy of documents on diskette upon request.

\* If the CA objects to approval of the application, or requests that approval be subject to conditions.

If there are substantial disagreements following the filing of the SOPs, and the parties cannot resolve the differences by stipulation and the parties do not waive the right to a hearing, the parties shall propose a hearing schedule (including the filing of simultaneous post-hearing briefs) for Commission approval.

If HWSC determines that a Reply SOP is unnecessary, HWSC and the CA will notify the Commission that the proceeding is ready for decision making.

III.

# MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS TO FACILITATE AND EXPEDITE THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THESE PROCEEDINGS

### A. Requests for Information

To the extent practical, HWSC and the Consumer Advocate will cooperate (1) by exchanging information requests and responses as they become available, and (2) by resolving questions regarding information requests and responses informally to attempt to work out problems with respect to understanding the scope or meaning of information requests, or with respect to the availability of information. If a party is unable to provide the information requested within the prescribed time period, it should so indicate to the inquiring party as soon as possible. The parties shall then endeavor to agree upon a later date for submission of the requested information.

In lieu of responses to information requests that would require the reproduction of

voluminous documents or materials, the documents or materials may be made available for reasonable inspection and copying at a mutually agreeable designated location and time. In the event such information is available on computer diskette or other readily usable electronic medium, the party responding to the information request may make the diskette or such electronic medium available to the other party and the Commission.

A party shall not be required, in a response to an information request, to provide data that are already on file with the Commission or otherwise part of the public record, or that may be stipulated to pursuant to Part B, <u>infra</u>. The responding party shall, in lieu of production of a document in the public record, include in its response to the information request an identification of the document with reasonable specificity sufficient to enable the requesting party to locate and copy the document. In addition, a party shall not be required, in a response to an information request, to make computations, compute ratios, reclassify, trend, calculate, or otherwise rework data contained in its files or records.

A party may object to responding to an information request that it deems to be irrelevant, immaterial, unduly burdensome, onerous or repetitious, or where the response contains information claimed to be privileged or subject to protection (confidential information). If a party claims that information requested is confidential, and withholds production of all or a portion of such confidential information, the party shall: (1) provide information reasonably sufficient to identify the confidential information withheld from the response, without disclosing privileged or protected information; (2) state the basis for

withholding the confidential information (including, but not limited to, the specific privilege applicable or protection claimed for the confidential information and the specific harm that would befall the party if the information were disclosed); and (3) state whether the party is willing to provide the confidential information pursuant to a protective order governing this docket.

A party seeking production of documents notwithstanding a party's claim of confidentiality, may file a motion to compel production with the Commission.

#### B. Matters of Public Record

In order to provide a means to reduce unnecessary reproduction of documents and to facilitate these proceedings, identified matters of public record, such as reports that HWSC has filed with the Commission, published decisions of this or other Commissions, published scientific or economic statistical data, material and textbooks, technical or industry journals relating to electric utility matters, and specified parts of the record in previous Commission dockets shall be admissible in this proceeding without the necessity of reproducing each document; provided that the document to be admitted is clearly identified by reference to the place of publication, file or docket number, and the identified document is available for inspection by the Commission and the parties; and further provided that any party has the right to explain, qualify or conduct examination with respect to the identified document. The Commission can rule on whether the identified document can be admitted into evidence when a party proffers such document for admission as evidence in this case.

From time to time, the parties may enter into stipulations that such documents, or any portion of such documents, may be introduced into evidence in this case.

### C. <u>Copies of Filings and Information Requests</u>.

1. <u>Filings</u>:

Commission

Original + 8 copies

**HWSC** 

2 copies

Consumer Advocate

2 copies

2. <u>Information Requests and Responses:</u>

Commission

Original + 8 copies

**HWSC** 

2 copies

Consumer Advocate

2 copies

3. All pleadings, and other documents required to be filed with the Commission shall be filed at the office of the Commission in Honolulu within the time limit prescribed pursuant to Chapter 61, subchapter 2, section 6-61-15 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

4. Copies of all filings, information requests and information request responses should be sent to the other parties by hand delivery or via facsimile. In addition, if available, all parties shall provide copies of their filings, information requests and information request responses to the other parties via diskette or e-mail in a standard electronic format that is readily available by the parties. The parties agree to use Word 97, Word 2000 or Word 2002 as the standard programming format for filings in this case.

However, if workpapers, documentation, or exhibits attached to any filing are not readily available in an electronic format, a party shall not be required to convert such workpapers, documentation, or exhibits into an electronic format. Also, existing documents produced in response to requests need not be converted to Word 97/Word 2000/Word 2002 as long as the applicable format is identified. In the event a copy of a filing, information request or information request response is delivered to a party via diskette or e-mail, unless otherwise agreed to by such party, the same number of copies of such filing, information request or information request response must still be delivered to such party by hand delivery or via facsimile as provided in Parts C.1 and C.2 above.

#### D. Communications

Chapter 61, subchapter 3, section 6-61-29 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure concerning ex parte communications is applicable to any communications between a party and the Commission. However, the parties may communicate with Commission counsel on matters of practice and procedure through their own counsel or designated official.

Communications between the parties should either be through counsel or through designated representatives. All pleadings, papers, and other documents filed in this proceeding shall be served on the opposing party. All motions, supporting memoranda, and the like shall also be served on opposing counsel.

#### E. General

These procedures are consistent with the orderly conduct of this docket.

Pursuant to Chapter 61, subchapter 3, section 6-61-37 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, this Stipulated Procedural Order shall control the subsequent courses of the proceedings, unless modified at or prior to the hearings to prevent manifest injustice.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii, this 23rd day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2004.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Bv

Carlito P. Caliboso, Chairman

Ву

Wayne H. Kimura, Commissioner

 $\mathbf{p}_{\mathbf{v}}$ 

Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michael Azama

Commission Counsel

Wilhael Dame

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Stipulated Procedural Order No. 21071 upon the following parties and participant, by causing a copy hereof to be mailed, postage prepaid, and properly addressed to each such party or participant.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY 335 Merchant Street, Room 326 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

J. DOUGLAS ING, ESQ. PAMELA J. LARSON, ESQ. 999 Bishop Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor Honolulu, HI 96813

Karen Higash

DATED: June 23, 2004